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THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Takashi Ishizaka Confirmation No.: 5661
Serial No. : 10/066,212
Filed : February 1, 2002
TC/A.U. : 2171
Examiner : P.J.D. Santos

Docket No. : 02-152
Customer No.: 34704

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

In response to the Office Action dated September 22, 20004 having a period for response set to expire December 22, 2004, having been extended for one month so as to expire on January 22, 2005, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to reconsider the propriety of the outstanding rejection for the reasons given hereinbelow.

The data processing system according to claim 1 of the present invention comprises the following construction.

A: A data processing system having a storage device for recording data which belongs to an object representing a target event, in which one or more tables are stored in the storage device, each of the tables defining the number of data recordable areas, and each of the objects and recording areas in each table individualized by an identifier capable of taking numerical form, said system comprising:

B: specification means for specifying an identifier related to the data concerned and the number of recording areas of the table to be accessed in response to a data accessing request; and

C: range of area determining means for determining the range of recording areas in the table to be accessed by executing a predetermined computational algorithm which uses as variable factors at least the identifier and the number of recording areas

specified by said specification means."

According to the data processing system of the present invention having the construction set forth above, since the range of recording areas to be retrieved is defined or identified by the predetermined computational algorithm, data retrieval is enabled irrespective of the amount of data, and accordingly a data processing system capable of achieving a constant processing speed is obtained.

With regard to the outstanding prior art rejection, applicant respectfully traverses same for the reasons set forth hereinbelow.

First, the purpose of the Berkowiz et al (US 6,457,021) cited in the action is different from that of the present invention. More particularly, the purpose of Berkowitz et al is to provide a database system which enables multiple concurrent read-only access to database records (e.g. column 1, lines 3-5), while the purpose of the present invention is to provide a data processing system capable of achieving a constant processing speed independent of the amount of data.

Further, the examiner alleges that the reference Berkowitz et al discloses the constructions A and B of the present invention as set forth above. Although Berkowitz et al disclose similar construction as the construction A, applicant respectfully disagrees that Berkowitz et al discloses construction B as set forth above. Berkowitz only disclose e.g. "The client uses an appropriate hashing algorithm, or other suitable method, to find the key entry in the appropriate index table in shared memory (block 401)." in column 9, lines 29-36, or, "The particular index or record entry is found by translating a search key into a table address using a hash function shared between the core and the client processes" in column 16 line 63 to column 17, line 2.

Furthermore, as the examiner admitted, the reference Berkowitz et al does not disclose or suggest the construction C

of the present invention. In this regard, the examiner alleges that this construction C is disclosed in the another reference (Boeuf (USP 6,009,502)). However, as discussed later, reference Boeuf disclose nothing about the construction C and the examiner's opinion rejection is based on hindsight reconstruction.

The critical features of the present invention lies in the combination of the constructions B and C in addition to the construction A, and by comprising these constructions B and C, the present invention can accomplish the expected result. Accordingly, the claimed invention of claim 1 is not obvious from the teachings of the disclosures of the references applied by the Examiner in the outstanding rejection..

The same analysis applies to claims 2, 8, 9, & 10 of the present application.

With regard to the Boeuf reference, the invention disclosed in Boeuf enhances processing performance by allocating a single oversized contiguous storage area and by allowing data wrapping for storing and retrieving data as described in the ABSTRACT thereof.

More particularly, Boeuf discloses in column 2, lines 14 to 26 that the purpose of the invention is attained "by allocating a fixed-size storage area of contiguous memory for saving native logging data invariable length record", "by allowing data wrapping", "storing information necessary for data integrity verification inside each record", and "by using single file , thus avoiding any need for complex and time-consuming multiple file management operations".

However, it is clear that the technical features as noted above is quite different from the construction C of the present invention discussed above, that is, "range of area determining means for determining the range of recording areas in the table to be accessed by executing a predetermined computational algorithm which uses as variable factors at least the identifier

and the number of recording areas specified by said specification means."

Next, with regard to the description disclosed from column 3, line 21 to column 5, line 20 of Boeuf, it is respectfully submitted that only an example for recording variable-length data by wrapping (wraparound) is disclosed in this section. More particularly, the reference discloses in the above section that "returning the position information (head key, tail key, base key) of the data for writing to the application requested the writing, and writing is conducted by adding top header information at the head part and bottom header information at the last part of each block of the data for writing.

By constructing as above, in Boeuf, the check for consistency between the parameter returned to the application and the written data is easily achieved with small or lower resource. In addition, the calculation formulas disclosed in the section are used for conducting the above processes. Further, it is clear that data recording is conducted by wraparound and no process such as "determining the recording area by the contents of the data" is conducted in the Boeuf reference.

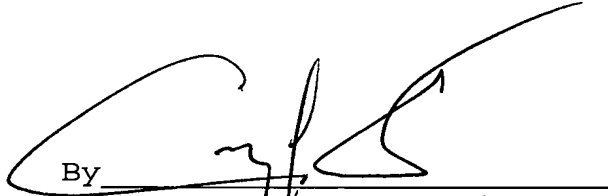
In summary, the technical features disclosed in the Boeuf are different from and of a different nature from the present invention. It is respectfully submitted that the Examiners conclusion that the present invention is obvious from the disclosure by pointing to phrases such as "Boeuf refers the recording position for data", or "calculation formulas is used in Boeuf" is in error and belies the "concept as a whole" clause of 35 USC 103 and amounts to nothing more than hindsight reconstruction.

It light of the foregoing comments, applicant requests that the Examiner withdraw the pending rejections and issue a Notice of Allowance.

If any fees are required in connection with this case, it

is respectfully requested that they be charged to Deposit Account
No. 02-0184.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: January 21, 2005

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: "Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313" on January 21, 2005.


Rachel Piscitelli